

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Title on page 1 of the specification, and elsewhere as appropriate, with the following Title:

Variants of Mammalian Prolactin, Prolactin Receptor Antagonists, and Methods of Use

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 2, with the following replacement paragraph:

The invention relates to mammalian prolactin (PRL) variants, and their use as antagonists of mammalian prolactin receptors (PRLRs), more particularly of human prolactin receptor (hPRLR).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 7, with the following replacement paragraph:

Accordingly, the present invention provides an antagonist of a mammalian prolactin receptor, wherein said antagonist is a variant of mammalian prolactin having the following mutations:

- a) a mutation or set of mutations within the 14 N-terminal amino acids, wherein said mutation or set of mutations prevents the formation of the disulfide bridge between Cys₄ and Cys₁₁, and
- b) a sterically hindering mutation or set of mutations within binding site 2 of prolactin.

Please replace the Abstract with the Substitute Abstract attached on a separate page to this Amendment.